MONTEREY NEWS

September 2016

Est. 1970 Vol. XLVI · Number 9

Birds-eye views from the streetside and riverside of the proposed library renovation and expansion. Approximately fifty people gathered at the library in early August to learn from a presentation by the library trustees, architect, and project manager about the plans. See pages 2 and 3 for a report of that meeting and a copy of the site plan.

At our upcoming special town meeting, the select board is putting up for discussion and a vote a proposal to change the treasurer position from elected to appointed.

Elected or Appointed? Page 4

The Mt. Hunger graveyard is surrounded by a stone wall and birches and pines. The ground isn't a smooth bright green the way more modern, well-kept cemeteries elsewhere often are.

Mt. Hunger Graveyard Page 18

When the sunset footlights set the stage for dusky shadows of animated performance, they leap around and chase each other…"

Cottontail Rabbits Page 16

Community Center Page 7

Be brave. Give yourself a poke. What are you doing that you especially care about, and can you share it?

Cultural Council Grants Page 6

Iona, Scotland Page 5

All visitors will be entered into a raffle to win six mugs made by the artists on this year's tour.

Berkshire Pottery Tour Page 17

Our Newest Engine Page 27

When we were little kids mulling over the nature of death, Dad said he would be coming back as a squirrel.

Carrion Beetles Pages 12

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Library Rejuvenation Plans

We love libraries, especially our own in Monterey. When we travel in New England, and recently across the USA, we visit libraries. Many of our favorites are here in Massachusetts, probably due to our states' incentive grants to towns to upgrade their facilities. Monterey's hard-working library trustees and renowned librarian, Mark Makuc, have created a plan to bring our facility up to higher standards to meet the 21st-century needs of our community.

On August 8, forty-nine citizens gathered at the library. The trustees held an informational public meeting to show us the results of their planning work to date. Mark began by reminding us that our treasured building was built in 1931 at a cost of $7,500! It has served us well, but we all know it has serious deficiencies, especially in accessibility for us less-able citizens. He further explained how the trustees had begun the process by surveying the town to find out what we expected and needed from the library. After determining the need to expand our facility, the trustees then successfully applied for a $40,000 state grant to begin the application process for a state grant to pay for a majority of the cost.

Upon awarding the planning grant, the state recommended hiring a consultant/project manager to guide the rest of the process. The trustees hired Dan Pallotta, whose firm, P3 Associates, has helped eight communities to renovate their libraries. Dan explained that the state has a special commission whose charge is to evaluate requests for library expansion grants. There is an eight-to-ten-year cycle ,which is expected to begin anew next year. Once the projects are identified, implementation funding is spread out over the next cycle. Dan believes we have a strong need and could be among the first to be funded if we are accepted.

We collectively held our breaths while Dan laid out the funding scenario. The total cost will likely be $3 million of which possibly 67% would be funded by state grants leaving 33%, equaling $1 million, to be funded by the town and other possible sources. How the town would finance that amount hasn't been determined, but the amount is not deemed insurmountable for our tax base. "Who knows?" Dan said, "Someone might step up and donate it!" Dear reader, if this could be a possibility for you, please contact Mark.

The site plan above, by Foresight Engineering, shows the placement and the scale of the proposed expansion of the current library. The expansion would add approximately 50% greater depth to the current library footprint, and would completely envelope the Knox Gallery. Retaining walls would be built to the east to afford parking spaces for eight vehicles; along the riverside to provide access above the Konkapot; and angling towards Brookbend condomiums providing a flat lawn area. Large print versions of all the images for the proposed library are on display in the library.

As of this writing, there is a special town meeting planned for Thursday, October 6, asking voters to approve two non-binding resolutions authorizing the grant application to proceed.

The grant application will be due on January 27, 2017. On July 13, 2017, the state commission will release its provisional awards. If Monterey is provisionally successful, we must then raise and appropriate our share of the project cost at the May 2018 town meeting. There may be other funding sources available to fund Monterey's share. If the Monterey voters approve the expenditure, the state grant would be finalized and work could begin soon afterward.

The trustees selected Tim Eagles, of EDM Associates, as our architect. He described his building plan, which includes

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a site plan prepared by Monterey resident Rob Hoogs' firm, Foresight Engineering. Tim's plan was shown in the August issue of the *Monterey News*. It is also on display in the library and on the library website. Essentially, the space would almost double the current 1,800 square feet and use an open floor plan so the librarian on duty can see all parts of the building and entrance from the circulation desk. It will have a wide bank of windows overlooking the south side of the building next to the Konkapot River. The site will add eight parking spaces. The original building will remain, along with the lawn in front, while the Knox gallery addition will be replaced with a new addition. The original library floor space will become a multipurpose room that could be accessed after library hours for many appropriate town activities.

Most of the questions from the audience concerned the basement and its uses. Currently the historical society stores many documents and antiques there. The new building will have a full dry basement, but it will not be open for use by the public. There were also concerns about the building being so close to the river, but the site plan prepared by Foresight squeezes everything onto the existing plot.

In response to a question, Tim said construction would take from eight to ten months. There is still opportunity for changes and modifications before we put shovels in the ground. The state may also make design modifications, although every effort has been made to incorporate known state requirements. The state library commission has built many libraries and the successful elements are built into their requirements. Mark said, "The new library will serve all of Monterey's population in ways that the current building cannot."

This is a big expenditure for our town in comparison to our $4 million annual budget. But think for a moment what the citizens of Monterey were dealing with in 1930 when they had the foresight to invest in our cherished building. They were in the throes of the Great Depression and stock market crash. Yet they were thinking of us, the future generations. Shouldn't we step up now? Please attend the special town meeting in October and let your voice be heard!

—Steve and Sally Pullen

September 8 Primary

On Thursday, September 8, you will have an opportunity to choose a candidate for state senator to represent Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden counties. Registered democrats are likely to be choosing our next state senator since this senatorial voting district is overwhelmingly democratic. The next senator we choose will be replacing outgoing senator Ben Downing, who has provided strong leadership on environmental issues, has worked to move broadband projects toward completion, and has supported innovative housing initiatives.

Three candidates are competing for the democratic nomination. Two have recently visited Monterey. Andrea Harrington greeted folks at our transfer station, and Adam Hinds visited at a meet-and-greet event hosted by Jacob Edelman (who has been working on Adam's campaign this summer). Reinaldo Del Gallo is also on the democratic primary ballot.

Christine Canning is running unopposed in the republican primary. Ms. Canning appeared with the three democratic candidates in a forum in Beckett during June, and claimed support for most progressive platform issues, with a possibly distinctive business slant.

They all claim the mantle of progressives, but there are real differences, so go to their web sites, get more information, make your choice. Please vote.

—Monterey Democratic and Republican Town Committees

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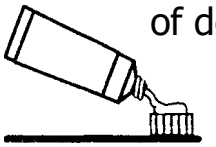

528-6520

Route 23 Monterey

Health Fair

Monterey Fire House
Saturday, October 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Check out your health
Learn valuable health information
Make contacts with area health care providers

Community Health Program, Fairview Hospital,
and the Monterey Fire company are some of the organizations
that will be represented.

Sponsored by the Monterey Council on Aging.

The Treasurer Position
Appointed or Elected

We need your help. At our upcoming October 6 special town meeting (as currently scheduled), the select board is putting up for discussion and a vote a proposal to change the treasurer position from elected to appointed. Yes, we tried this before, but we made the mistake last time of coupling it with the tax collector and clerk positions. There was much confusion about the other positions, which led to a close, but negative, vote. This time we are focusing on just the treasurer position.

This is why the select board is proposing this change:

The treasurer is a non-policy-making position that requires a specific professional skillset to fulfill the responsibilities of the job. Monterey has a nearly $4 million budget. The treasurer position calls for interacting on a regular basis with town departments, the town accountant, local and municipal banks, bond counsels, and the state department of revenue. The town needs and, more importantly, deserves the best individuals responsible for managing your tax dollars.

The department of revenue reports that over 80% of the cities and towns in Massachusetts have changed the treasurer position from elected to appointed, with most of these changes happening in the last ten years. It is common sense that as the complexity of town finances and regulations has grown, the treasurer plays a greater role and needs to be better informed and educated.

Currently, the laws require that all elected officials in the town, including the treasurer, be residents of the town. Do we have skilled and qualified individuals for every position? Maybe, but our selection pool is seriously limited when only residents can be considered. We only have to look back at the last election when only one individual was on the ballot. The town didn't learn how unprepared this candidate was until she left after three months. This is not the way to run a town.

We are still left in a difficult position because even if we pass this proposal, it would not go into effect until a year from the next annual town election. The state, rightly so, views this change as extremely serious and requires not only a vote at a town meeting but also a vote at the next town election. This means that, even if the town votes this change, we will once again have an appointed treasurer for the next nine months until the May 2017 town elections, and will still need to elect a resident to a one-year term to serve until May 2018. This will be the fifth treasurer in three years.

Please consider what we are proposing, talk with me or one of the other select board members (Steven Weisz and Carol Edelman) if you have questions, and please support this change at the September 22nd town meeting.

—Kenn Basler
Chair, Monterey Select Board

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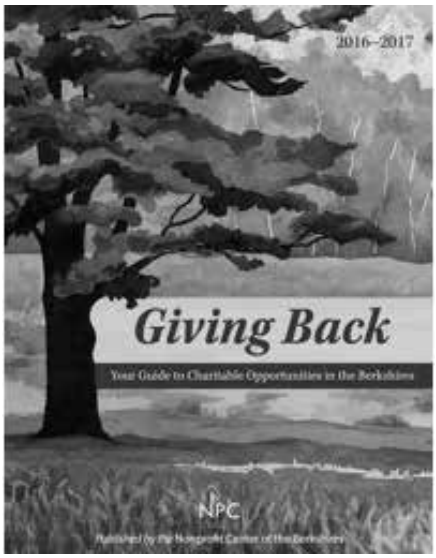

Susie Crofut

"Giving Back"
A Guide to Giving

The Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires is launching a unique directory, *Giving Back: Your Guide to Charitable Opportunities in the Berkshires.*

Giving Back is a directory of all Berkshire county nonprofits, designed to help organizations share information with potential donors about ways to get involved and support their mission. Berkshire County's 984 nonprofits will be listed free of charge by category. Categories represent large nonprofit subsectors such as Arts & Culture, Environment, and Health & Human Services.

Nonprofits can gain additional exposure in the guide by purchasing a profile page for $125 ($75 for Nonprofit Center members). The profile page allows nonprofits to share their mission, a photo, program description, upcoming events, fast facts, and ways to support the organization. The deadline for submission is September 9. Nonprofits can complete their profiles,and pay online at npcberkshires.org.

5,000 copies of *Giving Back* will be distributed in November throughout Berkshire County to schools, banks, real estate offices, businesses, and more. The production of this inaugural giving guide is made possible by sponsorships and advertising from local businesses.

The Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires launched earlier this year with a mission to facilitate growth for nonprofits through affordable products and services, shared resources, and creative collaborations.

Exploring Ecumenical Community

Gabi Makuc will share reflections and discoveries from her summer travels on Tuesday, September 6, at 7 p.m., at the Monterey church. She spent time in the ecumenical communities of Iona, Scotland ,and Taize, France, with support from the Alice & Richard Henriquez Memorial Fund and Lawrence University. Entitled "Ecumenical Christian Communities in Practice," her project is an exploration of how these communities foster unity amidst diversity.

At a time when religious difference often breeds strife, these communities are peacefully bringing together people of vastly different Christian and even non-Christian backgrounds. Such dynamic community building, which values each individual voice, yet is greater than the sum of its parts, is the focal point of Gabi's exploration. Her talk will draw from the workshops and services she attended, which ranged in subject matter from climate change to pilgrimage, biblical studies to responses to bullying. Most of all, her learning was guided by conversations with guests and members at Iona and Taize regarding their experiences with ecumenical Christianity.

As she traveled between Iona and Taize, Gabi had the opportunity to experience many other sacred sites. She visited the Community of Aidan and Hilda at Lindisfarne, England, the London Spirituality Centre, and Adveniat Christian Youth Hostel in Paris, to name a few. In her talk, she will also share some of the community engagement projects that she witnessed at these and other sites.

Please join us for an evening of song, discussion about building community in our own lives, and a visual presentation. Refreshments to follow.

Gabi Makuc

Iona Abbey, on the Isle of Iona, Scotland.

Gabi Makuc

Among new friends atop a mountain on Iona. Pol (from the Netherlands) visited with a friend in hopes of learning about Celtic spirituality and exploring the island; Shahrukh and Miriam (from Scotland) came to Iona with their church group, and Gabi is on the right. Living at the Iona Community, friendships like these form quickly as people dive into the rhythm of communal meals, chores, workshops, and prayer together.

The Children's Attic

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Cultural Council 2017 Grants
New Priorities, New Process

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has awarded our Monterey Cultural Council more than $4,000 for local grants, to enrich the cultural life of our community. A competitive process for these local grants begins September 1, when applications are available on-line for awards for 2017. The deadline for applications is October 17.

In general, we are able to award about fifteen to twenty grants of about $200–$400, only a pittance for the gifts these activities provide our town. We encourage you to apply and share your know-how, your vision, and your talent.

Applications will be logged in at the state level and then forwarded back to our council for award decisions. Our local priorities and guiding principles are broadening to stimulate participation by more of Monterey's talented residents.

The Monterey Cultural Council retains its priority of awarding grants that serve the interest of the Monterey community, but we are trying to stretch the concept of culture to be more inclusive and have more local meaning. So we are seeking applications that focus on specific know-how and talent in the broadest sense. We want you to think about your passions, your skills and talents, and to share these with the residents of Monterey. What are you learning? What skills are you building? Could you and the community benefit from sharing this know-how? If so, we welcome you to apply and get support from a Massachusetts Cultural Council grant, through the local Monterey Cultural Council.

Be brave. Give yourself a poke. What are you doing that you especially care about, and can you share it? If so, the Monterey Cultural Council would like to support you. The online grant applications are available at mass-culture.org.

Applications must be postmarked no later than October 17. (Late applications cannot be considered.) All awards will be made by January 15 for projects to be done during 2017.

—Pat Salomon
Monterey Cultural Council

Gould Farm 5k: Running for Recovery

September 25th

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Berkshire Poet Patty Crane reading and discussing her acclaimed translation of *"Bright Scythe: Selected Poems by Tomas Tranströmer"*
Reception & book signing follows

These programs are supported in part by a grant from the Sandisfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Monterey Community Center News

Come and see our nearly-finished community center at our fourth annual Octoberfest on Saturday, October 1, from noon to 4 p.m. We welcome you all to this family day of fun and community as we celebrate our progress.

You'll be able to purchase bratwursts from Red Apple Butchers, grilled up by the Monterey Fire Company (who will also have one of the big engines on hand for visits), as well as hot dogs and fixings. We'll be serving beer from Berkshire Brewing Company, cider, hot drinks, and such, and a wide assortment of baked goods. Our list of artisans and vendors keeps growing.

Of course we'll be holding the annual pumpkin roll and other activities such as pony rides (back by popular demand), photo booth, face painting, and veggie decorating, and we'll enjoy continuous live music. This year we'll be treated to songs of blues and rock heritage by Peter Poirier, dance tunes and waltzes by Mountain Laurel, and country blues/early jazz from the Easy Ridin' Papas.

Be a Part of Octoberfest

We enjoy this day of fun as much as you do, but we've discovered that many hands make for lighter work. Could you spare a bit of time to help serve food and beverages or set up and break down tents? Volunteering at Octoberfest is a great way to have fun and meet your neighbors. There is also a need for donated gourds and other veggies for decorating, as well as fabric, trim, etc. Please call Mary Makuc at 528-5834 or Cara Carroll at 528-4820 to explore what works for you.

House photos by Joe Baker

Above, the finished exterior of the community center. The photo below left was taken at Octoberfest 2014; below right was at Octoberfest 2015.

House Exterior Progress

As the photos in this issue illustrate, the new siding on the MCC is complete! Doing expert work, Mark Amstead Associates completed the final wall and roof preparations, then applied the pre-painted cement siding and tidied up a zillion loose ends around the exterior of the building. The place looks fantastic. The finish work is continuing on the inside as well, with window casings and trim, hardwood floor, and finished stairway going in soon.

The community center has been informed that they've won a second Massachusetts Cultural Council capital grant, this time for $25,000. The timing for this award is wonderful as we are expecting to have a new septic system installed during October by Tryon Construction. These grants rely on strong evidence of community support, which is very apparent.

Thank you for all your support. —Friends of the Wilson-McLaughlin House

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EPA/FLG partnership
Monitoring Cyanobacteria

The intense heat of this summer has brought on several algae "blooms" visible on Lake Garfield. These are patches of shiny greenish matter floating on the surface. Traditionally viewed as slightly repugnant but innocent, it is increasingly evident that, while still rare, these greenish floating mats of slimy debris may contain cyanobacteria. These bacteria can produce toxins that are dangerous to humans and wildlife. While we have no problem yet, Friends of Lake Garfield has found a perfect partner to help monitor this aspect of lake health.

On Saturday, July 30, volunteers joined the EPA's Cyanomobile at the Lake Garfield beach. The Cyanomobile is the EPA's regional mobile laboratory that travels around New England teaching citizens to monitor cyanobacteria in our lakes. The EPA's Hillary Snook gave a short talk about emerging lake pathogens and tools to monitor lakes for cyanobacteria. We then had a chance to use the mobile lab equipment to view these bacteria and other common pond inhabitants under microscopes. We also learned how to collect standardized samples from these blooms and to transmit our findings immediately to the EPA using a mobile phone app. The EPA is developing "citizen scientists" to reach far and wide with its monitoring of cyanobacteria. And now Monterey is fully equipped with the technology to be part of it. We are also linked to scientists who can help us do this well.

Pat Salomon

Coordinator Zoë Hutcher helping Isabella Boudreau.

Zoë Hutcher, an environmental biology student at University of Vermont and part-time resident of Monterey, volunteered to coordinate this project. Don't miss this opportunity to become a citizen scientist yourself. Young and old can help Lake Garfield. For more information contact Zoë at zoehutcher@yahoo.com.

—Pat Salomon, 644-8833
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From the Meetinghouse
That Attitude of Gratitude

As I write this, it's been a week since 40,000 homes were affected by flood waters in Louisiana. "Affected by flood waters" can mean almost anything. Some homes might have sustained only minor damage, but toxic mold grows rapidly in warm post-flood conditions. Maybe a few structures were swept off their foundations. At the modest estimate of three people per household, that's dramatic change in life as they knew it for 120,000 people.

And it's day four of California's Bluecut Fire, which caused authorities to warn 82,000 people to evacuate their homes. So far the fire has destroyed ninety-six of those homes and burned through 37,000 acres. That's fifty-seven square miles.

The fire is now about 40% contained. But when your neighborhood is altered by fire, earthquake, damaging wind, or flooding, you're changed. Even when your own home is intact, you're changed. Any of us who were here in 1995 during, or immediately after, the tornado on Memorial Day know that's true. We were changed. And now, within one short week, more than 200,000 people are in the same situation.

Either of those August events might still mushroom into an even bigger story. Or we may have already discarded both of them as "last month's news." Either way, the people in their path didn't vanish when the media attention dissolved. They need our help. If you're in Monterey right now, put this down, get up, go outdoors. Take a good look around you. If you're somewhere else, let your eyes explore the photo of the falls behind the Knox Gallery. Let yourself feel how thankful you are for this vital, beautiful place. And let that attitude of gratitude lead you to make a donation to benefit those changed last month by flooding or by fire.

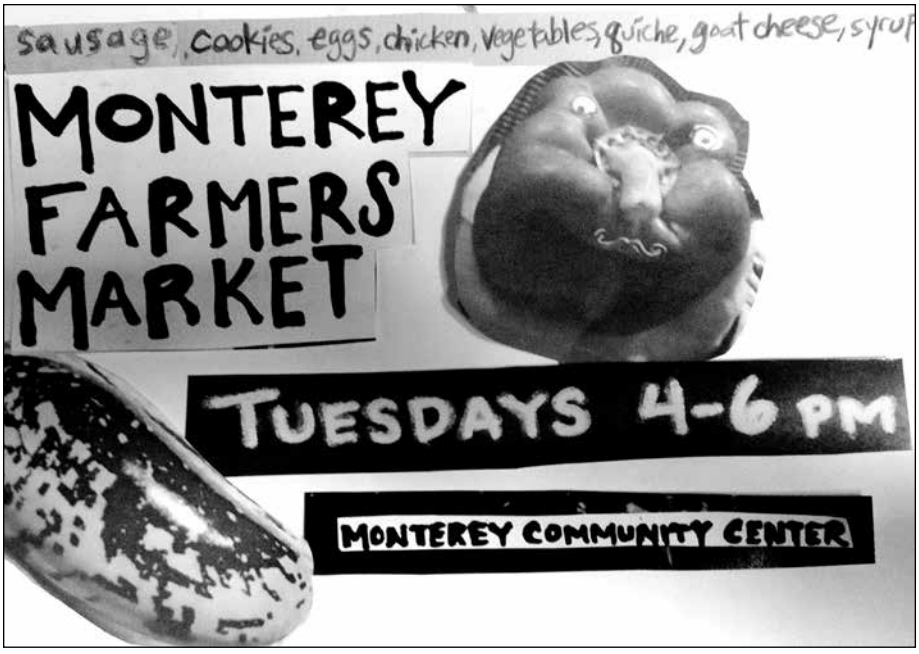
You may already have a favorite organization to help you with that. If not, using the browser search bar, enter:

- "Louisiana flooding victims help cnn.com"
- "Aid victims of blue cut fire kesq.com"
- "811133 fire information pe.com" (Also aids victims of the Bluecut fire.)

—Mary Kate Jordan

Mary Kate Jordan

This view of the falls behind the Knox Gallery is one of a multitude of beautiful places right here in our own backyard. This view is an exellent approximation of the view that will be present from the outside deck at the back of the proposed library expansion.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Rebuilding Route 23
Nearing Completion

If you travel Route 23 fairly often, you already realize this, but the two-year paving project, paid for mostly by the state, is nearing completion.

This summer the pavement along the entire length of the approximately seven miles from the Great Barrington town line to the Otis town line, except for the few portions that were reworked a few years ago, were ground up, mixed with a bit of oil, and then laid down in place. This was rolled, and then a first course of asphalt laid down. At the beginning of August the pavement in the village area was milled off to leave a clean, scored surface. By the end of the third week of August the whole length of the project received a top course, and the road lines were repainted.

Also this summer, crews laid in new granite curbing at the intersection with Blue Hill Road and Corashire Road, laid down asphalt curbing in places near the village, and reworked drainage areas, adding catch basins and run-off ditches. Another crew removed probably a couple of miles of guard rail, lifted the posts as much as eight to ten inches, and then remounted the guardrail.

Folks will remember last year's work with the long sections of boulder retaining walls, forty culverts replaced, and the project to replace a very large culvert at the intersection with River Road.

As of this writing, not much remains to be done. Some areas of the road shoulders will need to be filled, and the long clean-up process up will begin.

The officers who worked the police details this summer deserve our appreciation. In some situations a driver might wonder about the need for traffic details, but this was rarely the case during this project. The two pictures above, of the village pavement being milled (above left), and then the paving near the head of New Marlboro Road (above right), show situations involving many trucks, many workers, a tremendous amount of activity, and active intersections, and yet the officers kept traffic moving through the work zones safely and as efficiently as possible.

We have to remember that as smooth as the roadway is now, all the same driving hazards still exist, so we have to mind the speed limits. Some of the same officers who kept traffic moving safely during the project will also pull cars over and issue traffic tickets if we don't. Please drive carefully on our roads.

—Stephen Moore

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September at the Knox Gallery

Anne Shatas' and William Carlson's *Rediscovered and Reconsidered* is on view at the Knox Gallery through September 24. The sculptors provided interesting insights into their work at their talk, which preceded the opening reception on August 20.

Shatas and Carlson are highly regarded artists and Monterey residents. Shatas is known for an unconventional approach to her work in ceramics and mixed-media forms. The artist uses found, created, and re-formed objects to create her eclectic assemblages, which, once formed, often express a pun or a story.

Carlson, internationally recognized for his work in glass, is inspired by architecture, geometry, and repetition. In addition to visiting the Knox Gallery, please check out two of his large-scale outdoor installations in excellent, Berkshire-based exhibitions: *The Nature of Glass* at Chesterwood (through September 18) and *Remix* presented at The Mount by Sculpture Now (through October 31).

The works in the Knox Gallery exhibition revisit these accomplished artists' earlier themes, while pushing the limits of current efforts. Please see the August issue of *Monterey News* for more information on these inspiring artists.

October Show

Our next exhibit, *Off the Grid*, features the work of Mark Olshansky, Peggy Reeves, and Geoff Young. Please mark your calendars for the opening reception on Friday, October 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. The artists will also present *Process & Reality: Artists Discuss Their Work*, an event tentatively scheduled for November 19. (To be confirmed in the October issue.)

Wanted:

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Winter Community Exhibition

Heads up! Our winter community exhibition is titled *Between the Lines*. We hope for a wide range of interpretations and mediums. Please start thinking, as work will be due just after Thanksgiving weekend. More details in next month's paper.

Refreshing the Gallery

We must paint the gallery and need help! If you are enjoying our ongoing exhibits and openings, we'd really appreciate your spending an hour or two with us during the week of September 26. Please send an email to montereylibrary@gmail.com, if you can lend a hand.

Our events are always free and open to all. Thanks to the Friends of the Monterey Library and the Monterey and Massachusetts Cultural Councils for their underwriting and support.

All exhibits can be viewed during library hours. Knox Gallery, Monterey Library, 452 Main Road, Monterey, MA, 528-3795; MontereyMassLibrary.org/Knox-Gallery; @Knox_Gallery on Twitter; Facebook.com/KnoxGallery.

—MaryPaul Yates

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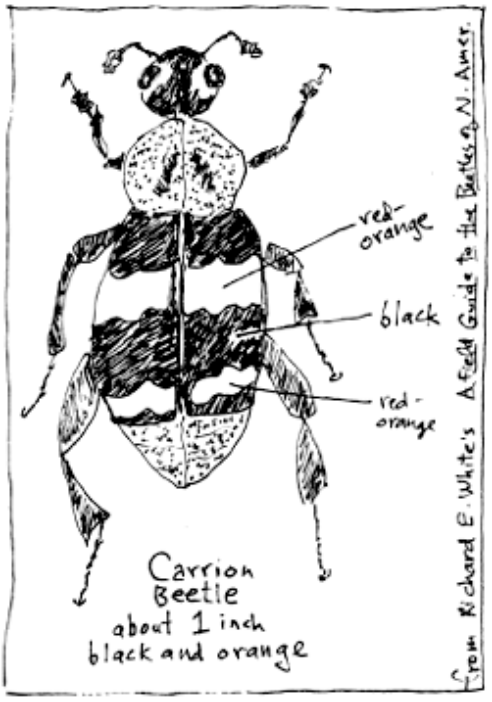
Life after Death, and Burial

Years back my old dad said, "When it's my turn, just take me out in the woods and put me by the big rocks." He had recently done this very thing when our old cat Corvus went belly up, and we imagined all sorts of next chapters in the black cat's story: a fox comes along? Maybe glad to find fresh dinner for hungry cubs in a nearby den. Or maybe Corvus lies there, as his millions of molecules spin off to join up in new ways, new compounds, new life. When we were little kids mulling over the nature of death, Dad said he would be coming back as a squirrel. "I'll be buried and will become compost for an oak tree. The tree will produce a fine crop of acorns and a squirrel will come and eat a few. Next thing you know, I'll be scampering up and down trees, making great leaps in the high branches. I can't wait!"

So any childhood worries about death were summarily dispersed. Then when I was four, my uncle died suddenly. What did this mean? He was an acorn now? Or he just wasn't there any more? Mom said, "He'll be there whenever you think of him." I took this as a personal responsibility, and thought of my Uncle Chesley Watkins every night when I'd gone to bed but not yet to sleep. It was the closest I ever came to any kind of bedtime prayers, and I did it so Mom could call up her brother if she wanted, even though he had drowned.

This summer an elderly Quaker pal asked me if I believed in "life after death." I didn't think he was looking for the squirrel and acorn answer. I tried the one about thinking about one's drowned uncle, but my friend is statistically much closer to his death than he ever was before. He sees it coming, and he does not think he will be around once it arrives, not in any conscious way like he experiences now, and has for nearly ninety years.



I think that's right, and I have been watching this biological existential question play out right here for about a week. I'd found a dead hawk on Tyringham Road and picked it up. It was in youthful plumage, like the eagle in Jon Sylbert's photo in last month's Monterey News. I brought the body home to show Joe, who said it was a broad-winged hawk. I carried it from the car to a place near the house where I could keep an eye on its post-mortem story. The very next day there was a glorious beetle on board, new to me. It was about an inch long, black with red-orange decorations on its back (the elytra, or wing covers). I am sure I'd never seen such a creature before, but I'd heard of "carrion beetles."

A few days later, our dog went into his version of a point position, focused on a tall stem of grass in the car-parking zone. Sure enough, there near the top was another of these colorful beetles. I knew what to do. I took it carefully to the hawk carcass and set it down. Holy smokes! This hawk had come to life! It lay on its belly, a bit spread out, but it was not holding still. You would think it was breathing, there was so much movement in the breast feathers. Even the wings looked like they were flexing after a few days' rest, getting set to take off. I picked it up and suddenly there were about twenty of these orange

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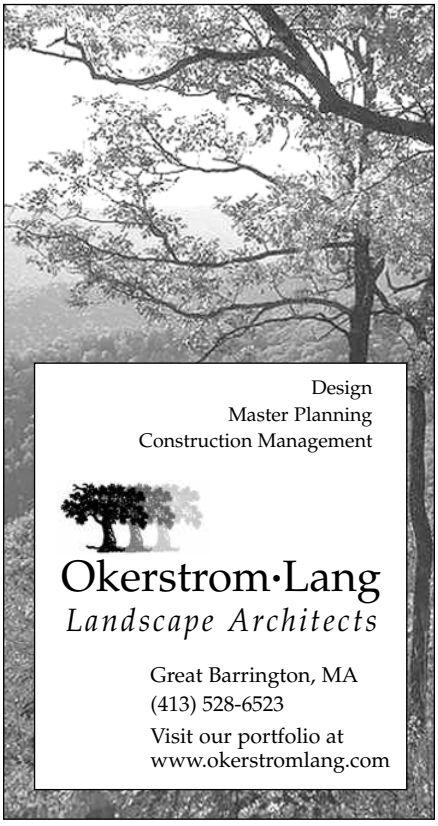

and black beetles visible down against the skin, moving about, rustling the feathers. After showing all this off to the rest of the family, I hit the books.

These are carrion beetles, also called burying beetles or sexton beetles. They don't just climb on a corpse for a meal. If it is the size of a mouse or a small bird, they will bury it. With these small carcasses, a male and a female beetle work together to dig around and under the body so it falls down into a shallow hole. Once they get it buried, the couple still work together to remove hair or feathers, to compact the body some, and to cover it with antimicrobial and antifungal secretions. These delay decomposition and stop any odor. The idea is to prevent other beetles or flies from getting access to the treasure, also to preserve it as a food source for the next generation. The pair of beetles mate and deposit eggs. They make a depression on top of the treasure, under its layer of earth, and come back again and again to deliver partially digested food for the larvae now developing. These babies can feed themselves on the carcass, but they also beg for food from the parents. This remarkable parental care is rare among insects, other than the familiar colonial types like honeybees or ants, which are called "eusocial."

The carrion beetle larvae reach their final stage, disperse into the ground to pupate, and then emerge as colorful adults. I am keeping an eye on the young hawk, and it is only recognizable now by its shape and its feathers and bones. It was too big to bury, and it surely fed more than one family of sexton beetles. Any flies that laid their eggs on the hawk also served the sexton beetles, since they like to eat fly larvae.

This is some fabulous long story, which I learned thanks to a road-killed hawk. Do I believe in "life after death?" The short answer is, "yes."

—Bonner McAllester

Transfer Station Summer Hours

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Berkshire Pottery Tour

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Montereyfest 2016

It was a bit windy but otherwise a sunny beach day for Monterey Day 2016, starting with the fishing derby in the morning and at to the beach in the afternoon.

Mr. Balloon was back and the lines were long for his creations. Also face-painting artists were in abundance. The bounce house was back. The wind caused havoc with the arts and crafts, but somehow we managed to deal with it.

Hot dogs, snow cones, and popcorn were on the menu, to the delight of the many children. Adults enjoyed the boat rides around the lake. I estimate that perhaps 150 people showed up, and I know for a fact that over 200hot dogs were consumed!

Thank you to the Friends of Lake Garfield for making this wonderful celebration happen!! —Elizabeth Germain

Above: Calvin Lewis won a tackle box at the fishing derby, and was joined by his fishing buddies, Brandon and Logan Barde.
Below: You can run (not very fast in the water) but you can't hide.

Plenty of faces showing that they can't wait until next year's Montereyfest!

The First Hot Dog That Was Ever Served

This is true
old hall pixley in washington's time
the queerest old gent ever told in rhyme
he kept an inn he drinked his whiskey
and for a gent was rather friskey
he worked his farm cut his hay
not just the same as they do today
for they cut it with scythes raked it by hand
while he served drinks to every man
until they all was feeling gay

old hall was all lit up they say
when the boys set fire to his load of hay
he cracked his whip and rode away
singing here I come in my firey shay
when his hay was burning he rode and sung
the queerest old man that ever went up hung
while at his festal board his prayers was sung
for the richest wines graced his table
and the story I now tell is no silly fable

for old hall had a little pup
a cranky little cuss
and that there dog got many a man
in many an ugly mess
when the seat of their pants would be
in the teeth of that little cuss
then the men they got together for to form a plan
to kill old halls pup
the pup of the tavern stand
but old hall he was watching them
so he got them every one
now said he I'll feast them well
for the dirty job they have done
for my dog will make a savory stew
cooked with spices rare and brandy too
then I will give a banquet the richest in the land
while I serve hot dog from my old tavern stand
then I will invite the men that did my dog
to come that night and dine
when I will serve my richest stew also my rare old wine

the men they were delighted to go that night and dine
for well they knew old halls grand feeds
and well they knew his wine
so they all dressed up in their sunday best
and got there right on time
to eat one of old halls grand feeds
and also drink his wine

that night old hall he stood at the head of his table
he served their stew with a big silver ladle
until they ate all the stew he had for the table
then up spoke old hall just like a sinner
and asked them how they liked their dinner
they called it fine the grandest spread
then with a laugh old hall threw back his head
I know you did my dog
and now I know you have ate him he said

so hot dog was served in the olden time
Just as I have put it in rhyme
for old hall pixley was the man who first served
hot dog at his tavern stand

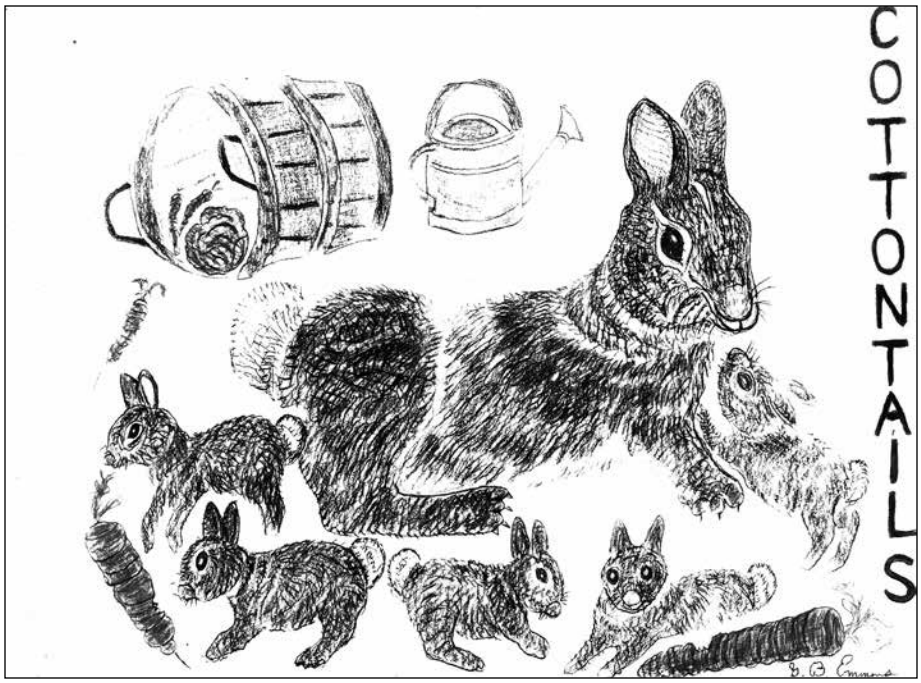
This story come to me long ago from Elijah Pixley who was old Hall Pixley's son. I lived with Elijah Pixley and his wife when a child long ago. I am now eighty-four years old, December 10, 1946.

—Hannah Climena Pixley
Published in the *Monterey News* in July 1996

The autobiography of Hannah Pixley, or the known portions of it, were published in the *Monterey News* beginning in December 1995 and ran through July 1996. Hannah Pixley was born in Monterey on October 24, 1862. She began the telling of her true life story at the age of seventy-four, still living in Monterey. Her story ended prematurely, leaving one to suspect that it was carried on in another journal, which was never found. Look in the Monterey Library to read some of her life story.

I corrected some spelling for ease of reading, but left it unpunctuated as Hannah Pixley wrote it. The orginal was written in prose form, but I found it much easier and more pleasurable to read with line breaks. *—Editor*

The Beloved Cottontail Rabbit



The lawn of our new Crescent Beach home is blessed with a goodly number of cottontail rabbits that are remarkably tame. How can wild rabbits be so calm and collected with close human encounter right in broad daylight? Could it be that this behavior to freeze motionless is a learned adaptation to our hospitable neighborhood? Nevertheless, their-unblinking, wondering stare seems to size us up as newcomers. We've given them names and made friends, and every evening when the sunset footlights set the stage for dusky shadows of animated performance, they leap around and chase each other across the grass, adding the excitement of their recreation to the enjoyment of our own happy hour.

This eastern cottontail species is our own most plentifully thriving rabbit population in Massachusetts. Beginning in the springtime, they create nests in a shallow fur- and grass-lined hollow, sometimes right in plain sight but so camouflaged and low-profile to be almost invisible to the casual observer. After the first litter, there can be as many as three more litters in a good season, each with four or five adorable bunnies. The offspring from the first litter are able to reproduce by late August. These rabbits carry a well-deserved reputation for fecundity.

Our other less common rabbits are the slightly smaller New England cottontail easily identified by a small spot behind the head. Their habitat has been reduced by 80% in recent years by forest overgrowing the low-lying habitat of bramble, shrub, and thicket that provide protective warrens. However, the energetic reproduction of rabbits provides a consistent food supply to predators with great environmental value that united foresters, farmers, bird watchers, and hunters to clear-cut areas for future rabbit habitat growth. This conservation effort led to their being removed from the endangered species list.

Cottontails have a special place in our hearts since childhood, perhaps beginning with Beatrix Potter's first book, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. Beatrix was able to spin the yarn that portrayed each of her beloved rabbits, ducks, mice, and hedgehogs as human beings in no less than twenty-three more so-called little books,with moral axioms, such as naughty Peter being punished for going into Mr. McGregor's garden. Many other writers have told stories of animals as people, including Felix Salten in *Bambi*, E.T. Seton's *Wild Animals I Have Known*, and Walt Disney cartoons.

It was long ago and far away across the pond that Beatrix Potter found inspiration to write and draw in the lakeside English country near her home. Her inspiration became my own, and I thank you for joining me in my seaside vision of cottontails in her literary shadow. My effort is dedicated to my daughter Elizabeth Mulroy, who teaches pre-school and has pet rabbits of the English spot variety, and to my avid gardening wife, Jan, who at times, like Mrs. McGregor, thinks of baking a pie.

—George B. Emmons

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Berkshire Pottery Tour
September 24 and 25

The third annual Berkshire pottery tour will feature the work of six local potters on the weekend of September 24 and 25, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Each potter will host an open house and have work for sale in their studios, with a variety of demonstrations at different studios. At Grenadier Pottery, not far north of the village on the Tyringham Road, there will be demonstrations of plant impressions in clay, handle pulling, and wheel throwing.

The self-guided tour takes you through the beautiful valleys of the southern Berkshires in early fall, reaching from Richmond to New Marlborough. In addition to Grenadier Pottery, the studios of Linda Skipper, Dan Bellow, Lorimer Burns, Paula Shalan, and Ben Evans will be open. Admission to all the studios is free and families are welcome. All visitors will be entered into a raffle to win six mugs made by the artists on this year's tour.

The pottery tour exposes the potters' work to a larger market, allowing patrons to actually meet the maker of the goods they purchase and to see where and how they are made.

Look for the distinctive orange and white pottery tour road signs at key intersections on the weekend of the event. Maps are available at each studio as well as at berkshirepottertour.com

For more information, call Ellen Grenadier at 528-9973, or email her at grenadierpottery@hotmail.com.

Hope to see you then!

—Ellen Grenadier

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Mt. Hunger Graveyard

Monterey in the 1700 to 1800s was a different place. There were up to nine schools, and instead of conversations being permeated with the surnames Tryon and Makuc, there were mentions of Dowds and Thompsons wherever one turned their ear.

The cemeteries have changed as well. Now they're known by the road or mountain on which they rest. In earlier times they were known by direction: East Ground, North Ground, West Ground. The knowledge of these cemeteries is pulled from records and from Cindy Hoog's book.

East Ground is the original name of the one on Mt. Hunger, to which I grew up walking from behind my house on Hupi Road. In all there are seventy burial plots. The first burial was a two-year-old girl who died in October 1774. There are ten Dowds, thirty-two Thompsons, and seven Markhams.

On a grave towards the back of the graveyard are the names and dates of three young children, all of whom are buried beneath. The dates are within a month of each other. In the mid-1700s a scarlet fever epidemic came through the area just as it had with many other towns and cities throughout the country. All three children would have succumbed quickly once they caught it. In the back corner is a gravestone without a body beneath. The name that's written is Solomon Dowd. He died in the Civil War in White Creek, Louisiana, after being wounded in battle the day before.

As well as the graves from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, there are four more modern graves. One can't be buried in the Mt. Hunger graveyard unless you have a family plot, but David and Susanne McAllester and Arthur and Alice Somers did. The gravestone of the Somers was carved in the old style by a woman in Connecticut who only works in slate, and the writing is in a style that directly links to Arthur and Alice. Across the top is an angel blowing a trumpet. This figure isn't the archangel Gabriel, it's Arthur. Across the bottom is a bunch of mushrooms. Alice wasn't simply an amateur mushroom collector who had to look through books to see if they were poisonous, she was tremendously knowledgeable about the whole subject of mycology.

The Mt. Hunger graveyard is tucked into Beartown State Forest, surrounded by a stone wall and birches and pines. The ground isn't a smooth bright green the way more modern, well-kept cemeteries elsewhere often are. Here the grass is layered with dried pine needles. The only sounds are the sounds of the forest. The wind through the trees, the rustle of the animals. The crunch as you walk over the dead pine needles. There aren't any cars roaring by, no sirens. Aside from the noises that are natural to the forest, there's nothing, and to my mind, that's how it should be.

—Essy Dean

To visit the Mt. Hunger graveyard, turn up Mt. Hunger Road off of Route 23, about two-and-a-half miles east of the village, a little ways past the Hupi Road intersection. Three-quarters of a mile up you'll find a little road on the left. There is a sign, but it's rather faded. If you get to Norwalk Acres Road, you've gone too far.

From Linda Thorpe: Cynthia Tryon Hoogs compiled a gravestone listing of our five cemeteries in 1984. In 2006 Cindy began the process of recataloging, as well as adding all the inscriptions and epitaphs. The end result of this major undertaking was completed in 2013. It is on Cindy's computer from which she has printed out copies as needed. She graced me with an early copy, and I believe she donated one to our library, as well as the Berkshire Athenaeum in Pittsfield.

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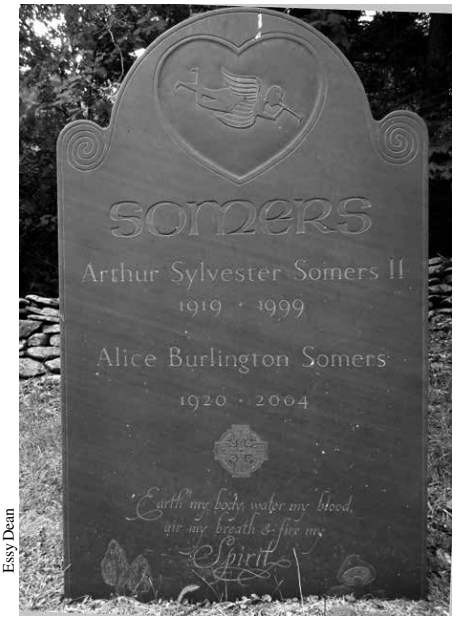
Essy Dean

The Mount Hunger graveyard."Here the grass is layered with dried pine needles. The only sounds are the sounds of the forest. The wind through the trees, the rustle of the animals. The crunch as you walk over the dead pine needles."
Below: Arthur and Alice's gravestone. For readers who knew Alice, perhaps later in her life, a photograph of her, probably from the early 1940s.



Essy Dean

Monterey News files

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Wildlife Report
Mid-July to Mid-August

Kyle Pierce gave us more reports of the young eagle of Lake Buel, as noted in here last month. One day in early July, Kyle was watching the familiar young bear in her neighborhood, the one with two red eartags. It was near her house and then went down to the lake for a drink. At the same time, she saw the eagle fledgling perched on the roof. It flew in a clumsy way toward the lake and perched on a tree there, then back to a branch nearer the house, still flying like a beginner. Here it perched about 9:30 p.m. and, Kyle says, was crying all the time. The next morning at 5:30 a.m. it was still in the same place and began crying again. After three hours of this it flew a ways and Kyle kept track of it. Finally, it flew off to Camp Half Moon, with much more competence, and sat silhouetted by the morning sun, no longer crying.

Early in August, Stephanie Grotz was reading the Wildlife Report in the *Monterey News* and looked up to see a fine bear in the yard. She took a photo and sent it in. Also early in the month, Diana Deacon saw four foxes all at the same time in the meadow behind her house. This is on Beartown Mountain Road. Later she saw one fox in the meadow, and this one was springing up in the air and landing with nose down and feet together. This is the way a fox pounces on a mouse in tall grass.

A friend on Blue Hill Road called up early in the month to tell of a tall cat with a short tail, with white on the tail and a black tip. It must have been a bobcat, but maybe an unusually tall one.

Sometime in the middle of the month, Bob Rausch saw a cottontail rabbit on New Marlboro Road, though he can't say which sort of cottontail it was. Also about this time, Doug McTavish saw a big bear on Mt. Hunger Road. When it stood up on its hind legs, it was easily five feet tall.

There are two reports of a mountain lion, right about the same time and nearly in the same place, so odds are it was the same animal. One report comes from Gould Farm, thanks to Steve Snyder, who says the big cat was crossing the flats near Curtis Road. The other comes from Jo Ann Bell, who saw a mountain lion cross Route 23 near the Roadside Store. These were clear and certain sightings of a very big feline with a long tail.

In later August, Stephen Moore was out in their garden with his camera and happened to catch some photos of a hummingbird moth feeding on pink phlox. They flit so fast he had a hard time getting them in the camera frame to get a good picture.

A big excitement here was my seeing a western tanager right outside the window. This took me back to my Wyoming days and I had to run to the books to learn that, yes, these western birds do show up once in a great while in Massachusetts. This is western Mass., after all.

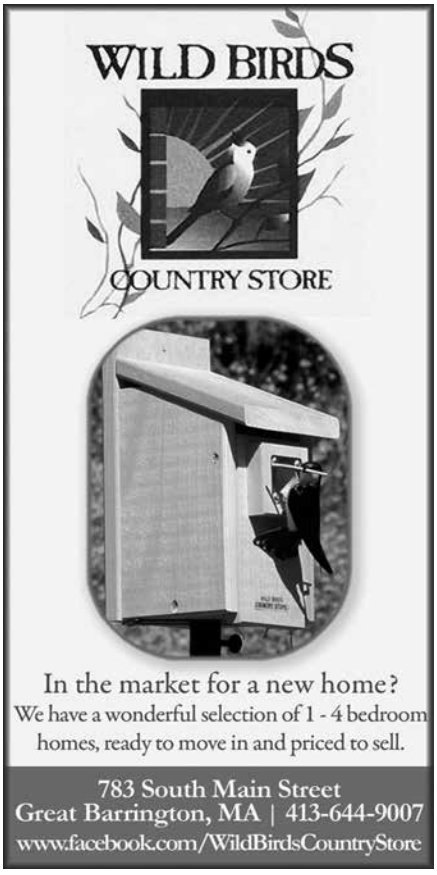
Thanks for sending me your sightings, and photos, and excitement about wildlife.

—Bonner McAllester
bonnermca@gmail.com, 528-9385.

ॐ

Stephanie Grotz

Stephen Moore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Bidwell House Museum
September Workshops

Methods of Food Preservation
Saturday, September 10, from 11 to 2, will be a craft workshop on methods of food preservation. Participants will learn colonial methods of food preservation as well as different forms of year-round storage. Using foods harvested from the Bidwell House Museum garden, participants will practice drying, curing, pickling, and fermenting. All materials provided. Members: $10. Non-members: $15. Please pre-register online.

Centuries of Stone Walls Walk
Saturday, September 20, at 10 a.m., there will be a free guided walk to explore the four miles of stone walls built by settlers on museum lands. Bidwell House Museum president Rob Hoogs will lead the group on old roadways, visualizing the landscape that resulted from settlement and farming activities in the 18th and 19th centuries. The walk will pass the site of the first meeting house,and cellar holes of long-ago homesteads.

Participants will meet at the Bidwell House Museum at 10 a.m. Please dress for the weather and wear hiking boots/sturdy footwear, as terrain is uneven in places. Bring a drink/snack. The walk is about two miles of exploration, taking approximately two hours. Please note, the walk does not include a tour of the house interior. The walk is presented in cooperation with Housatonic Heritage. (See HousatonicHeritage.org for other fall hikes.)

Animal Tracking: Finding Sign of Invisible Wildlife
Wildlife is living all around us, but a lot of animals hide so effectively in the night or in foliage that we may not even be aware of their presence. On Saturday, September 24, from 11 to about 2:30 p.m., there will be a talk and walk by naturalist David Brown. This indoor slide program followed by an outdoor walk will help you detect and identify some of the wildlife activity around us, as well as interpret found signs for insight into the lives of wild animals that live on our property.

David Brown has nearly thirty years of experience tracking wildlife in New England and the Southwest. He is the author of several publications including the recently released book, *The Next Step: Interpreting Animal Tracks, Trails and Sign*. His books will be available for purchase and signing at the program.

Bring a bag lunch for between the indoor and outdoor sessions. Dress appropriately for the weather with rugged footwear for off-trail walking. This program is suitable for adults and accompanied teens age thirteen and up. Members: $10. Non-members: $15.

The Bidwell House Museum is located at 100 Art School Road, Monterey, MA. For reservations or more information on the program, please contact bidwelleducation@gmail.com, or go to the workshops page at www.bidwellhousemuseum.org.

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Copake, NY, came to Monterey's Greene Park on August 13 under scorching summer skies and a heat index above 100 degrees for the annual Monterey vs. Copake softball contest, organized and managed by Monterey's Ira Transport. The Monterey group was victorious in terms of the number of players fielded, seventeen to Copake's eleven. However, Copake scored the most runs and went home the game winners. Monterey softball continues into the fall with weekly games on Sunday mornings at 10:30. Adult players of all levels are welcome, and equipment is provided. *—Steve Graves*

Transfer Station News

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over, and what a summer it was. Ben and Dave celebrated their one-year anniversary, and Beth her second, working for the townspeople at the transfer station. Time sure flies by.

The new transfer station is coming along nicely. Except for some blacktop, the roads are done and the electrical conduits have been laid. Next time you're in the area drive up and take a look. It's only a hundred yards up the Gould Road from the current transfer station site.

As all of us have been, Beth has been unusually busy. So many items come and go each day that unless you're there, it's hard to see. Some items don't even hit the ground before someone else is putting them in their car.

For those who will be heading back home after the summer in Monterey, we thank you for your patience on those busy days this year and hope to see you on and off throughout the fall and winter months to come. Thanks again for a great summer. —Beth, Ben, and Dave

Recently, Kenn Basler, select board chair, reported that transfer station expenses have been $4,000 less than last year, much of it due to the polite and skillful attention of the staff.

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*BASED ON BERKSHIRE BOARD OF REALTORS FIGURES

DaveGilmore

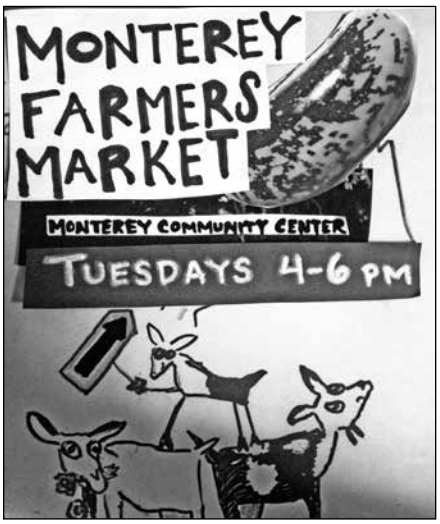
An antique desk claimed as soon as it arrived.

August 2015 Contributors

Every contribution, at anytime, makes a difference to the continued availability of the *Monterey News* twelve months of the year. Thank you.

- June Thomas
- Martha Race
- Laure Kaminsky and
- Danielle Kinstlinger
- Rudy Gero

Jean Germain



Dave Gilmore

The transfer station was hoping for a wash station at the new facility. The town may not even have the money to move the swap shop even. So this will have to do for now.

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BENCHMARK REAL ESTATE

Adonijah's 300th Birthday Bash—Thank you

The Bidwell House is one of the treasures of our town. The museum tells the history of our community, educates students of all ages, invites visitors to enjoy the blessings of nature in the gardens and on the hiking trails, thrills connoisseurs with a first-rate collection of antiques, offers fun and interesting events to residents and guests, and provides a glimpse of a different time. A great community event that keeps the museum going is the annual summer fundraising party. This year we celebrated Barbara and Dick Tryon for their contributions to the community, and we celebrated the 300th birthday of Adonijah Bidwell. Despite the heat wave, many Montereyans were there to enjoy a fun and beautiful event.

On behalf of all our visitors, teen interns, hikers, history lovers today and for years to come, a huge thank you to all who contributed to the success of the fundraiser.

Gala Committee
Maggie Barkin and Christine Goldfinger, co-chairs. Michael and Maureen Banner, JoAnn Bell, Dorene Beller, Shannon Amidon Castille, Delight Dodyk, Walter and Mary Jo Engels, Charlie Flint, Linnea Grealish, Ruth Green, Rob and Cindy Hoogs, Nancy Jones and Gil Schrank, Michael Keith and Ronald Skrepich, Frank and Julie Kern, Marc and Kathryn Roberts, Pat Salomon, Joyce Scheffey, Linda Saul-Sena and Mark Sena, Jane and Martin Schwartz, Rick Wilcox, Elizabeth Wolf, MaryPaul Yates, Cheryl Zellman.

Party Sponsors
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Vendors and Services
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Donors of Auction items: Michael Albert, Michael and Maureen Banner, Berkshire South Community Center, Brockman Real Estate Farm and Home, Café Adam, Canyon Ranch, Virginia and John Demos, Delight Dodyk, Domaney's Fine Wines and Liquors, George and Jan Emmons, Walter and Mary Jo Engels, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Beth Feeman, Charlie and Joy Flint, Jean Germain, Christine Goldfinger, Richard Greene, Rob Hoogs, HSG Home Chef, Sarah Hudson, Iredale Mineral Cosmetics, Jewish Museum, Nancy Jones, Michael Keith and Ronald Skrepich, The Kitchen Table, Hillsdale, Marianne Merritt, Museum of Art and Design, Marsha Norman, Kathryn and Marc Roberts, The Old Inn on the Green, Professional Tennis Registry, Linda Saul-Sena and Mark Sena, Jane and Martin Schwartz, Seven Salon, Stockbridge, Whitney Museum, Rick Wilcox, Wild Bird Country Store, Simon and Setsuko Winchester

Dick and Barbara Tryon receiving a plaque from the Bidwell House Museum celebrating all their various contributions to the town over their lifetimes.

2016 Young History Scholar Interns
Ella Carlson, Fiona Herson, Jacob Makuc, Joseph Makuc, Justin Makuc, Marya Makuc, Talia Pott, Samantha Watson

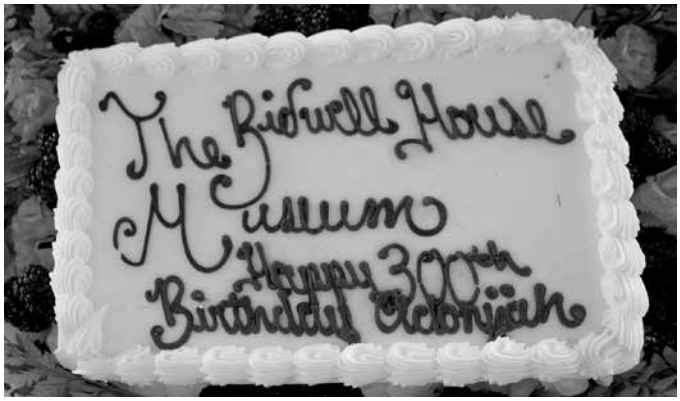
Thank you, Kenn Basler, for your tribute to the Tryons, and many thanks to all party guests for your support and good cheer.

The Bidwell House Museum will be closed for tours after Labor Day, Monday, September 5, for restoration work. Last chance to visit the historic house this year. The gardens and trails are open to visitors year round. Come enjoy.

Above: Cindy Hoogs, Delight Dodyk, Jan Emmons, and Bidwell House Museum director Barbara Palmer.
Below: Susannah Bailin, Maggie Barkin, and Don Barkin.
All the Bidwell House gala party photos by Walter J. Engels.

Jean Germain

A great evening of telling stories on Monday, August 15, for the Monterey History Project. These young people seated around the Library table are from Monterey and had a fun time relaying tales of having interned at The Bidwell House Museum. Left to right around the table: Jonah Carlson, Ella Carlson, Gabrielle Makuc, Jacob Makuc, Justin Makuc, Jacob Edelman, Marya Makuc, and Joseph Makuc.



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Select Board Corner

Welcome to the Select Board Corner. Our goal is to submit an article each month to the Monterey News to keep everyone up to date on important issues, office closings, highway projects, etc. This article may be especially important for those who cannot access our website. This is a work in progress, and we welcome any comments or suggestions on the articles.

Meetings and Events

Board of Health: Monday, September 19, at 4 p.m. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Conservation Commission: Tuesday, September 13, at 6 p.m.

Council on Aging: Monday, September 12 and 26, at 10 a.m.

Free wellness clinic: Berkshire VNA on Thursday, September 8, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Foot Nurse: Thursday, September 8, 9 to 11:30 a.m., by appointment (please call 528-1443 x247). All ages are welcome.

Parks Commission: Wednesday, September 7, at 6 p.m.

Planning Board: Thursday, September 8, at 7 p.m. Please call Maggie Leonard at 528-9685 to be placed on the agenda.

Select Board: Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 9am. Please call 528-1443 x111 to be placed on the agenda.

Office/Town Hall Closings

The Town Hall will be closed on Monday, September 5 for Labor Day. Individual office closings are posted on the town calendar and on the department's voicemail message.

We recommend always calling ahead.

www.MontereyMA.gov

Our town website is a great way to access information about the town.

Special Town Meeting, Oct. 6

An important special town meeting is currently planned for October 6, at 7 p.m., at the firehouse. Warrant articles include a re-vote on the Lake Garfield Preservation Tax District, allocation of funds for modest stipends for grant writers, approval to continue the library improvement project, changing the treasurer position to an appointed position, a request for appropriation for funding necessary for broadband work to proceed, and more. The warrant will be finalized on September 1, and a detailed copy of the warrant will be mailed to all eligible voters. Please be sure to read it carefully, show up at the meeting, express your opinions, and vote.

—Kenn Basler, Chair
Steve Weisz and Carol Edelman
Monterey Select Board
(kenn@montereyma.gov)
(steve@montereyma.gov)
(carol@montereyma.gov)
For general inquiries, please click "Contact Us" at www.montereyma.gov

Town Contact Information

Emergency! 911

Administrative Assistant:
528-1443 x111
admin@montereyma.gov
(for town boards and misc. questions)

Assessor: 528-1443 x115
assessors@montereyma.gov

Building Dept.: 528-1443 x118
buildingsafety@montereyma.gov

Fire Department (non-emergency):
528-3136
fire_service@montereyfire.org

Highway Dept.: 528-1734
mhwy@verizon.net

Library: 528-3795
montereylibrary@gmail.com

Police Dept. (non-emergency):
528-1443 x116,
Alternate emergency 528-3211
mpdchief@montereyma.gov

Post Office: 528-4670

Tax Collector: 528-1443 x117
montereytax@yahoo.com
(for questions about your tax bill)

Town Clerk: 528-1443 x113
clerk@montereyma.gov
(for licenses and town records)

Laurie Shaw

The chilren of three Monterey familes, who all went to the Monterey school, now all adults, met for an impromptu reunion at former town resident Eileen Clawson's birthday party in August. From left: Maggie Clawson, Morgan Clawson Schlich, Emily Shaw Petre, Deirdre Higgins, Eoin Higgins, and Andrew Shaw. The dogs are Ripley and Freya, Deirdre and Eoin's, respectively. *—Eoin Higgins*

Calendar

Every Sunday: Adult softball. Batting practice at 10, games 10:30, Greene Park.

Every Tuesday:

Chair Yoga with Connie Wilson, 9 to 10 a.m., Monterey Town Hall. Free, sponsored by Monterey Parks Commission.

Cards and Games club, at 12:30 to 3 p.m., at the town hall.

September 1 through October 15: Applications for Monterey Cultural Council grants. See page 6 and page 11.

Tuesday, September 6: Summer travel quest, Gabi Makuc. 7 p.m., Monterey Church, Free. See page 5.

Thursday, September 8:

State offices primary, voting at the fire house.

Foot care clinic with Jane Kelley, 9 to 11:30 a.m., town hall. 528-1443 x 247 for appointment. $25

Free wellness clinic. 2 to 3 p.m., town hall, no appointment necessary.

Saturday, September 10: Bidwell Museum craft workshop: Methods of food preservation, 11 to 2 p.m. See page 21.

Saturday, September 17:

Bidwell Museum and Housatonic Heritage Walks- Centuries of Stone Walls. 10 a.m. Free. See page 21.

Lenox Contra Dance from 8 to 11 p.m., new dancer session at 7:45. Live music by Eric Buddington, Chris Jacoby, and Kate Barnes. Calling by Bob Issacs. Lenox Community Center, 65 Walker St. LenoxContraDance.org. Contact 528-4007.

Monday, September 19: Monterey History Project—Gould Farm Stories. 7 to 9 p.m., Monterey library.

Tuesday, September 20: *Monterey News* deadline.

Saturday, September 24: Bidwell Museum workshop: Animal tracking-Finding signs of invisible wildlife, 11 to 2:30 p.m. See page 21.

Sunday, September 25: Gould Farm 5K Run for Recovery. See page 6. Registration at 8:30 a.m., event begins at 9:30 a.m.

September 24 and 25: Berkshire pottery tour. See page 17.

Monday, September 26: Adult book group meets to discuss *The Summer Before the War* by Helen Simonson, 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 1:

Monterey Community Center's Octoberfest, noon to 4 p.m. See page 7.

Knox Gallery *Between the Lines*, from October 1 through November 26. See page 11.

Thursday, October 6: Special Town Meeting, See page 26. (This date may change.)

Friday, October 7: Knox Gallery opening reception for *Between the Lines*, with Mark Olshansky, Peggy Reeves, and Geoff Young. 5 to 7 p.m.

Steve Pullen

The Town of Monterey's new fire truck. The ladder will greatly increase the safety of attacking fires through a roof in addtion to an elevated nozzle.

Monterey News

The *Monterey News* is an independent nonprofit corporation dedicated to fostering communication in the Monterey community. Our editorial address is PO Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs. Submissions may also be sent to the email address below. Address requests for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4007 or email montereynews9@gmail.com.

Save the Dates

October 8: Health Fair, Monterey Fire House. See p. 3.

October 13: Flu clinic

Not to worry—Ray and Pete were keeping a close eye on the process.

MONTEREY LIBRARY

Note extended Tuesday hours!

Monday.....7–9 p.m.
Tuesday .....9 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Wednesday .....2–5 p.m.
Thursday .....4–6 p.m.
Friday.....4–8 p.m.
Saturday ..9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
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Copy Editor.....Hannah Fries
Mailing Labels ..... Joe Baker
Treasurer ..... Steve Pullen

Contributions from local artists this month:
Maureen Banner, p. 5, George Emmons, p. 16;
Bonner McAllester, p. 12.

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